

RECREATION



**Easter Dawns Over
a Modern World**

March 1948
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Recreation

March 1948

What First

"The most important task confronting the United States Atomic Energy Commission is to keep the country's best scientific and managerial brains at work on atomic development."

David E. Lilienthal.

THE GREAT TASK of the National Recreation Association is no different. Recreation—leisure time—abundant living activities and programs have one of the greatest contributions to make to this generation.

The contribution can affect practically every other field—religion, industry, labor, education, health, local and world government.

Strength, joy, growth for mankind depend immeasurably on the kind of brains and quality of leadership provided by the community for leisure.

With scientific knowledge of *things*, with our power with *atomic energy*, with *jet propulsion*, we neglect at our peril that which is at the center of man's own inner nature.

Man himself wants to grow, to be important, to be strong, to be joyous, when he is free just to be himself.

Billions for more knowledge of things, for science—yes. But millions also for cooperative societies and foundations of the type of the National Recreation Association, that work on the problem of the strength and happiness of the man himself, who to us, is after all, central to all this world.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.



As Spring Returns

Across the frozen fields warm breezes blow;
The sleeping woods lift green arms to the sky,
And sugar-maple sap begins to flow.
A thousand streams rush swollen down the hills;
The swallows and the robins northward fly
With promises of spring and daffodils.

In happy homes the children run to see
The bright-hued eggs left by a rabbit's hand
In blithe defiance of biology.
And over all the world their elders pray
For peace and brotherhood in every land,
Their hope renewed afresh this Easter Day.

Muriel W. Edgerton

Summer Camping Values

Digest of a talk given at the Organizational Camping Panel, at the New York State Conference of Social Work in Buffalo, November 1947.

Bernard J. O'Shea

MY TOUR OF duty in the Army prompted the camping committee to suggest a mention of any instances wherein summer camping experience came to the surface during my Army life and proved of value. While I did not consciously look for such details or engage in any survey that would permit some statistics, there are certain observations which I can pass along for *you* to decide their value.

My opinion is that unquestionably those exposed to summer camping found such background decidedly of value. Observing the scene at a reception center, it would appear that few draftees or enlistees had been to summer camps or had absorbed any of the important teachings such camps furnish. Men wander about aimlessly, except where definite orders have been given for a particular job to be done. Often new soldiers seem anxious for an order to be given so that they can rush to obey—not from fear of authority but rather from a desire to be doing something. Men seek the intimacy of one other person rather than the group in order to discuss their problems, their fears and, yes, their loneliness; for not knowing how to mingle with a group, they are very much alone in the midst of many. Policing camp ground, making beds, KP duty, find the men in need of assistance on how to proceed. In the evening the lights and noise of the recreation hall attract them, and they wander in to stand and watch the activities. At times some seem to be waiting to be asked to join or participate. Often they are too bashful to perform in front of strangers and, consequently, refuse to enter these activities even when asked.

The conclusion to be drawn from this picture is, I am sure, obvious to all: "There is no substitute for experience." The new soldier, who has had a few summers at camp as a boy, possesses a

great advantage. Large groups of strangers in close association hold no fears for this former camper; that situation he met in the first few days of summer camp. Sleeping in a tent or dormitory-like building is familiar—he knows how a bed should be made, where to put his clothing, how to make his existence in small confines pleasant and comfortable. The mess-kit is not an enigma but rather something he desires and needs if he is to eat properly at the open field kitchen. The recreation hall draws him not as an observer but as an eager participant. In fact, the chap with summer camping experience shortly finds himself to be somewhat of an unofficial leader in teaching others how to do the many little things that are part of any camping routine. Camping, which is living together for twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, is a unique group work activity, and there is no substitute that can produce similar important results or values. No books can teach its lessons; no Army regulation or manual can effectively order it.

In stressing the values of summer camping, it seems appropriate at this time to mention briefly the possibility of a universal military training program in this country. There is no doubt that summer camps can make a contribution in assisting future trainees to adjust themselves adequately to the type of life they may be required to undergo at an early age. I am not suggesting or advocating any specific program at this time. Certainly I would not contemplate operating a summer camp along military lines. In fact, it is my opinion that summer camps should consistently avoid rigid military procedures whenever possible. But since the adjustment values are so important for everyone, particularly for those who may in later years engage in training activities at military camps, camp directors should be conscious of such possibilities when planning a camp program.

To confirm this adjustment value to be gained from summer camping, I would like to relate what has been told to me by doctors at two neuropsychiatric institutions under the Veterans Administration. It was the belief of those doctors that one of the basic causes of neuro-psychosis among their patients was their inability to adjust adequately to the radical change to military life. Had rapid adjustment been accomplished, it seemed conceivable to these psychiatrists that future experiences *might* not have taken the toll they did. Now I trust you will not leap to the conclusion that I advocate summer camping as a preventative or antidote for neuro-psychosis. However, if adequate adjustment is such an important factor to the existence of the new soldier, I am sure you will agree that summer camping experience could be a very positive aid to those who may later be compelled to undergo military training.

Touching further on this medical aspect, an analysis of the physical examinations given to newly inducted men clearly showed that an astounding number were not in satisfactory physical condition. I am not referring to rejections for physical disabilities but rather to tests and medical reports which established that many of the newly inducted soldiers were unable to cope physically with early vigorous training programs. There is no doubt that school systems and, to some extent, summer camps can contribute much to the improvement of the physical condition of our youth. In fact, you may recall that, in planning your summer camp programs, additional emphasis was recommended on the more vigorous exercises aimed at raising the physical standards of your campers. Knowing

camp directors, I am certain you cooperated with this suggestion. However, I have recently noticed signs indicating a forgetfulness of some signal imperfections that war conditions uncovered. My reference to a physical conditioning program for summer camps is, therefore, in the nature of a reminder to camp directors not to join the ranks of those who have become negligent.

The many steps taken by the Army (duplicated, I am sure, in the Navy and Marine Corps) in the recreational field indicate the tremendous value discovered in recreation by the military authorities. At the outset, the Army organized a recreational division, the Special Services Division, which had charge of purchasing recreation equipment, disseminating material, information, supervision and advice on programs and the operating of a recreational school for officers and enlisted men. (Recently there has been a rumor from a reliable source that the Special Services Division may secure corps status, i.e., as an organization it will be on the same plane as Quartermaster Corps, Signal Corps, Medical Corps, etc.) Overseas, the Army established rest area camps and found them most effective. Then there were forty Special Services Companies complete with portable recreational equipment and trained recreational officers and enlisted men to service isolated units with recreational programs. Here in this country, in addition to excellent recreational programs in Army camps, Redistribution Centers were established strategically in different parts of the country where soldiers, who had spent considerable time overseas, were permitted to stay and relax. These stations were literally vacation playgrounds or resorts offering practically every recreational



Camping, which is living together twenty-four hours a day, is a unique group experience. No substitute, nor book, can produce similar results or values.



The camper learns baffling details of how a bed should be made, where to put his clothing, how to make existence comfortable in tent or dormitory.

opportunity. These programs permitted additional millions to be exposed to leisure time activities, which fact resulted in a far greater percentage of our population becoming accustomed to, and eager for, all forms of recreation.

And where can one find a more desirable form of recreational group activity than in summer camping? It is something that all camp directors should bear in mind in planning and operating their programs. You will be dealing with a people more aware of recreation, familiar with its group work values and the proper standards that should prevail.

These experiences of so many men and women in the armed forces have increased tremendously the search for, and participation in, leisure time activities. Once exposed to the pleasures of recreation, they develop a thirst for further experiences of this type that seems to be insatiable. Recreation has truly grown up, and future planning must be undertaken with that fact clearly understood.

I have been asked if there was any one particular factor or experience in my military life that would aid me in planning and operating future summer camp programs. Oddly, the outstanding factor was one that was most apparent to me by reason of its *omission*. It was the absence of any moral or spiritual philosophy in everyday Army life. The military leaders and planners will say there was no time for the diffusion of any such philosophy—a war was being fought. True, but living together twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, for months that stretched into years, required something more than just the techniques of fighting. Just as it was essential to supply the

individual soldier with all the material things required for complete existence, so also was it necessary to provide him with a spiritual and moral leadership. The Chaplains Corps were not enough; it was impossible for chaplains to reach more than a small percentage of the men within a post. A moral or spiritual philosophy should permeate the Officers Corps so they could pass along basic moral principles to the enlisted ranks during the daily routine. A soldier should not have to seek it; it should be there at all times for him to absorb, either consciously or unconsciously. As time went on, this omission became more and more obvious as a real deficiency; and I have resolved in future planning of summer camp programs to emphasize, to a greater degree, basic moral codes rather than such things as summer vacations just for sports for sport's sake or physical improvement. They are undeniably worthwhile objectives, but their value is greatly enhanced when motivated by a philosophy aimed at reaching the very character of the camper.

I bid you directors of summer camps to give some careful consideration to this thought, if you have not already done so. I am not asking for a particular spiritual philosophy but rather that the basic principles of a moral code pervade your leadership; that you stress to your campers a reason for their existence other than that which is materialistic or recreational; that you specifically recognize your position during the summer months as a foster parent and assume all the obligations that role implies. Your camp will be a much finer place, your campers potentially better citizens, and you yourselves will gain in stature.

National Negro Health Week

**April
4 to 11
1948**



Lunchtime is important for little tots. A balanced healthful meal should be served regularly every day.



Face and hands should be carefully washed before eating, using own towel.

A Two-Way



Street

Robert Hutchings

Cooperation Between Radio and Recreation

IN DOZENS, AND even hundreds, of United States cities, radio people and recreation people are old and good friends; some of them have been working together almost since the days of crystal sets and headphones. But in other communities there is no particular cooperation between radio and recreation even today, and in these places—according to at least one distinguished radio expert—neither radio station nor recreation department is quite doing its full job.

The spokesman for the radio industry thus interested in recreation is Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, Conductor of Listener Activity of the National Association of Broadcasters, and Vice-President of the Association of Women Broadcasters. The former is the organization which last year proposed the now hotly-debated radio code of ethics. It has taken leadership in setting up local radio councils, and not long ago established, as United States radio policy, that local stations everywhere in 1948 must, in their own interest, devote more study to problems of community service and community leadership.

During the course of every year, Mrs. Lewis speaks to hundreds of program directors and station owners and encourages among them a greater interest in, and greater knowledge about, such local movements as recreation. She thinks, however, that such interest on the part of radio people can perform only half the job; that there must be also a corresponding increase in recreation's knowledge and interest in radio.

There are three general fields which radio and recreation can explore together. The first is how

the radio station can best, within its program patterns, broadcast news about the recreation department; its function here is communication and interpretation—just as one of the functions of the newspaper is communication and interpretation. The second area is how the radio station can utilize the special skills and talent of a recreation department to bring its listeners better programs. And the third is how the recreation department can obtain leadership and help from radio and radio people, in the department's job of bringing the public better recreation.

When Mrs. Lewis talks to leaders in her industry, she rehearses for them the complaints about radio she hears from people outside the business: complaints about program content, about news dissemination, about commercials, about the use and misuse of music, about children's programs and about nearly everything else connected with a \$196,000,000 business (1946) which has grown up in less than twenty-five years. When she talks with people outside the business, she is equally well-prepared—upon these occasions with the comments and points of view she hears from radio people about just such movements as recreation.

Perhaps the greatest problem faced by the harried radio director today, for example, is that of trying to make his friends and neighbors realize how many people actually do listen to the radio. Quoting statistics, he has found, seldom helps—he can point out over and over again that radio listeners outnumber telephone users, bathtub owners, automobile users, Republicans and Democrats combined, and practically every other division of

the human race in America which can be classified. But despite these figures, the chess lover will still insist that there is an "audience" for chess news; the president of a service club will declare fervidly that "hundreds" of housebound Rotarians want to hear his Thursday noon luncheon speaker; while the local recreation director may suggest, in his turn, an hour's visit to a handcraft workshop.

There is, of course, an audience for each of these things, as there is an audience for every other kind of special interest. By the nature of radio, however, the program director is barred from using the recreation man's great technique of departmentalizing his activities. He cannot have one microphone for quiet people who like music, another for preschool youngsters, a third for boisterous teen-agers and a fourth for older people, and have all four microphones going at once. He must appeal to one group at a time, he must see to it that the group potentially is large enough to justify the appeal, and finally that his finished program does not drive the uninterested out of their living rooms, screaming.

Mrs. Lewis emphasizes this point by saying that there is no "inside page" for a good radio station. One cannot, as one New York newspaper does, give chess players a column or so of cozy chatter about the game—chatter, which on one day this winter, actually began with this sentence: "The conclusion was 20, PxP, NxQ; 21, PAN plus K-N1; 22, R-R8 plus, KxR; now 'David' quietly stoops to pick up the stone for the sling shot with the extremely 'quiet' move of 23, P-B7."

Nor can one, for that matter, devote an hour's broadcast time to the whine of a band saw and the clatter of a hammer from some handcraft workshop in the recreation department.

Yet recreation and radio can get together; the heart of a good recreation program is people—people of all ages, people of all interests, people enjoying themselves and becoming happier and better members of their community. This can be the basis for excellent radio and already is the basis for much of it. Given a radio station interested in its community (as good radio stations must be) and a recreation department ready to accept help as well as give it, add a little talent and a little thought, and everyone will be the better off—the public, most of all.

The first step in radio, which recreation people should take according to Mrs. Lewis, is to meet their radio station personnel, preferably through one of the fifty radio councils now organized in as many towns and cities. These are associations composed of local organizations, civic, religious,

educational, and radio stations which, among other functions, allocate raw radio time to local groups for important projects.

Missionary work among these councils, or among individual stations if no council is in existence, can show the radio business what the recreation department is accomplishing and why it needs help and support. It may also lead to the development of a program. Of all the people in one's community, radio people themselves are the ones best qualified to evaluate program ideas; they are also the ones, Mrs. Lewis confides, who most probably are eagerly looking for good ideas. Radio people, furthermore, should be invited to serve on recreation committees.

Although a survey is now in progress, there are few central registries for good programs which local recreation departments and radio stations can adopt ready-made for their own use. Lists of good local programs, however, can be assembled with the cooperation of a radio station manager. Existing programs often can be effectively used by the recreation department. Without specific case histories to go on, Mrs. Lewis is chary even of suggesting radio program ideas, but she imparts no particular trade secret in saying that music and children, separately or together, have never yet failed to attract a radio audience when properly presented. And if one can add local interest and local color, she feels, the recipe grows better. It is important to become familiar with radio techniques—spot announcements, quizzes, drama and so on.

In the meantime, as radio station and recreation department work out individual programs or program series together, the latter should continue its regular flow of news to the radio news desk. Any event of general interest sponsored by the department, any department campaign and all news announcements should go to the radio station as they now go to the newspapers in most communities; in this respect, the radio station is a member of the local press, with the same functions. This fact was pointed up with some force last year in the Hutchins' "Freedom of the Press" report.

In the process of developing sound relations between the radio station and the recreation department, the third area cited above by Mrs. Lewis will become apparent—the contribution which radio can make to recreation through leadership in its community, through its special talents and through its technical knowledge. Cooperation between recreation and radio cannot be a one-way street; the cultural impact of one upon the other is very great and the advantages of teamwork between them are too pressing.



The doors of the imagination must be opened . . . Chief Whirling Thunder tells Indian stories to an enthralled audience.



Let the children tell stories themselves. Above, proud winners of a storytelling contest on the playground.

Storytelling

Let storytelling become a part of every activity

Virginia Musselman

MANY BOOKS HAVE been written on storytelling, but in most of them it has been treated as though the telling of tales were a specific art and an activity complete in itself. So it can be, but it need not be so limited in its scope.

When we say "so-and-so is such an *interesting* person," we often mean that he or she has the ability to dramatize daily happenings, employ dialogue, reach a climax, unfold to us in a vivid and descriptive manner events and situations which we might not have been aware of, or noticed as interesting or unusual. That person is a storyteller.

In like manner, if we have any feeling for the past, and any background of knowledge or information, a fossil shell imbedded in a rock, an Indian arrowhead, a doorway, a quaint street, a strain of music, all tell a story. We are misers at heart if we hear these stories and do not pass them on to our friends and to our groups.

We do not have to be assigned to storytelling. The whole world is a vast mosaic of tales. If we drive past an apple orchard, the story of Johnny Appleseed comes to us, and in its train, the whole saga of American pioneer days. That orchard be-

comes not only a beautiful sight, but a symbol. We are selfish if we do not pass on that symbol to others. Too many of us hoard these symbols and cherish them close to our hearts. They are not ours alone—they belong to everyone, and must be shared in order to attain their full meaning.

So in every job we do we are surrounded by stories—sad ones, funny ones, queer ones, inspiring ones. We must learn to find and to recognize them—and we must pass them on. How poor we should be if our grandparents, our parents, our teachers and our friends had not passed on to us their stories of fact or fiction. How much richer we should be if we had heard more of these stories, and had recognized their importance. They represent our continuity with the past.

Our plea is that storytelling be not relegated to an hour a day on the playground, around a camp fire or in a clubroom, but become part of every activity that we conduct. It should be the bright pattern running through the warp of every skill taught, every activity promoted. Skilled fingers and active bodies are not enough. As everyone knows, the doors of the imagination must be

opened if the heart is to be enriched.

It is a very simple and easy task to teach a child to square knot a belt. How much more important that belt becomes if, in addition to that skill, he has also had his imagination fed with the stories of early Phoenician days when Tyrian purple was more valuable than gold and became the symbol of kings; of early shipping days when rope-making was an art; of visions of all the faraway places from which our materials come to us.

In teaching drawing, will not the story of Da Vinci and his dreams, the hardships of Van Gogh, the adventures of Gauguin in the South Seas, the travels of Rockwell Kent, all be as valuable as perspective, color harmony and balance?

Do not, then, set storytelling apart as a special art, using it only at definite intervals. To let it pervade our every activity will mean more work, more time, and more imagination on our part, but the gathering of knowledge is much more important than the gathering of facts, and results in much more permanent satisfactions.

Perhaps our fear of storytelling is the result of our thinking of it in too elaborate terms. There are times for the usual type of storytelling, but we lose a great opportunity if we leave storytelling to specific times, places, and leaders. Homer told his tales to servants and to kings; most of our knowledge of the Middle Ages comes to us from the tales of the traveling troubadours. All of our legends and tales are handed down through the ages first by word of mouth—by bards, poets, and the simple people, telling tales to their children and grandchildren as they worked and played. We are part of this long chain, carrying from one generation to the next the stories that have made life interesting and important. We are all tellers of tales, and we must make them as vivid and articulate as possible, because they are our link with the past and the future.

Any Age Is Story Age . . .

The Age of Rhymes and Rhythms (3-6 year olds)

Children from three to six years old need to feel secure in the world around them. The loss of this security may do great damage, reflected later in such traits as fear of the dark, of animals, of storms; shyness, timidity, nervousness, and sensitiveness. To tell a young child a story full of horror because it is amusing to see his face contort, his hands clench and his eyes widen, or to tell a sad story in order to see his eyes fill with tears is criminal. All too often parents and leaders com-

mit this crime because it is flattering to see such quick response, and because they do not realize the damage they may be doing.

The young child is interested in familiar things—things he sees and hears and knows in his daily life. He is a complete realist. He is too young for make-believe. His whole being is filled with the need for absorbing all the wonders at hand. He is interested in his father and mother, the children he knows, his home, his street, his dog and cat, and any other animals or things in his environment. In telling him stories, know this environment. A city child may be more familiar with a fire engine than with a cow.

Speech is relatively new to a child, and he loves the sound of words. This age chuckles over rhymes and jingles, and they are very real to him. It is interesting that almost all of us remember our Mother Goose long after we've forgotten hundreds of other stories. The jingle, plus the familiar characters, becomes so real to us that it stays with us.

Remember that a child's span of interest is short. Do not let your stories take too long. Let the child participate in them by breaking them often with "and what do you suppose she saw?" sort of questions. This not only holds the interest, but gives the story surprise and suspense.

Let the children play-act the stories, but in their own way, with no artificial props or sets. Use them as a basis for rhythms, like running, stretching, bending, and jumping. Let them carry-over into their active play. Let them climb the jungle-gym "like Benny the Squirrel," and jump over their blocks "like the cow jumped over the moon."

Let the children tell *you* stories—what they saw, what they did, what they said. It will encourage them in developing an understanding of their environment. It will give them poise, and make speech more interesting to them.

Tell your stories in a quiet voice, but do not let your voice become monotonous. Let your whole attitude be one of good nature and humor. Avoid overstimulation in all forms. Any type of public performance tends to overstimulate this age group. If, for any reason, a demonstration becomes necessary, let their activities be group activities, not individual performances, and let them be childlike in content—not parodies of adult activities. Too often such shows are given more to please the parents than to be beneficial to the children. Children are not "little men" or "little ladies." They are not small-sized editions of adults, and should not be treated as such. Respect them for themselves. Avoid such travesties as mock weddings.

The Age of the Fairy Tale

Children above the preschool age have learned to distinguish between the real and the unreal, and can place fairies, goblins, dragons, giants, and gnomes in their proper perspective—as delightful fancies of the imagination. If they have become adjusted to their environment and feel secure in the world around them, they will no longer be disturbed by outlandish adventures and strange forms. They have reached the age of the fairy tale.

There have been a great many discussions regarding fairy stories, and contentions that they have no place in the mind of the modern child in that they do nothing toward preparing him for everyday, adult life. If we follow this theory, we shall have to eliminate most of the arts—music, sculpture, drama, painting, and much of our literature, since most of us do not use these activities in conducting our everyday, economic life.

We believe, however, that fairy tales are part of our cultural inheritance, and that children should be allowed to hear, read and enjoy them. They are logical lead-ups to the heroic and the romantic in legend, song and story. Shall we throw out the Wagnerian operas, the King Arthur stories, the Iliad and the Odyssey because they deal with supernatural beings—giants, dragons, gods, magicians, and so on? What would our literature do without the Cinderella theme?

This period also offers the opportunity to introduce the children to the folk tales of other countries, to the customs of other children in other lands, and to stories of their own country. It is an excellent means of establishing interest and understanding.

Here, too, is where an appreciation of music and art may be engendered, using stories with music, or in music, such as—*Peter and the Wolf*, by Serge Prokofyev and *Adventures in a Perambulator* by Carpenter.

The pictures of Corot, Millet, Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Velasquez offer wide opportunities for arousing interest and appreciation of art through storytelling. Use prints of them as adjuncts to the stories.

Here, too, can begin an interest in science and the romance of everyday life,—the answers to the “why?” of the earlier period. Oddly enough,

this is a vast field often neglected by storytellers.

Do not neglect good literature. We tend to underestimate children, feeding them the boys’ and girls’ series books, when they can understand and love many of the real classics. The child characters of Dickens—Little Nell (*Old Curiosity Shop*), Tiny Tim (*Christmas Carol*), and David Copperfield; Maggie Tulliver cutting her hair, Maggie running away to join the gypsies, Tom and the ferrets—all from *The Mill on the Floss* by George Eliot; *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, and Rip Van Winkle of *Washington Irving’s Sketchbook*; *Hawthorne’s Paul Revere’s Ride*, *The Courtship of Miles Standish*, from Longfellow’s poems—all of these are not beyond the childrens’ ability to know and love. It is in this period that a love of good literature may be begun—a cultural force with deep implications for the rest of their lives.

The Age of Heroes, of Romance, and of Reality

These characteristics are grouped together because in most groups they run parallel with each other. The differences can be overcome by the presentation, rather than the material itself. In other words, for the younger ages in this group, the story itself may be the important thing. For the older groups, it will be the concept of the story. For example, the story of Siegfried may be presented as a fairy story, as a heroic adventure story, a story of romance, or it may be interpreted from a more intellectual point of view as a symbolic story of good versus evil, right versus wrong. This matter of presentation is a most important factor to a storyteller,

and should be given great care and thought. It is the type of presentation, not the content, that should be fitted to the needs of any given group.

Hero worship is not confined to any specific age group. The preschool age looks up to its parents, its play leaders, and to other children, usually a little older. “Crushes” can be found in the next age group, idolization of baseball players, band leaders, movie stars and so on. The need to attach one’s emotions to a single object has no age limit. The proper selection and interpretation of the heroic—through storytelling—can assist in supplying an outlet for this characteristic. Give your group King Arthur, Beowulf, Siegfried, Joan



Once upon a time . . . ! The young child loves the sound of words.

of Arc, Robin Hood, the Greek heroes, our American leaders, and the great names in travel, astronomy, medicine and the other sciences—Marco Polo, Columbus, Cabot, Galileo, Pasteur, Curie, Reed, and other great heroes, living and dead.

Do not neglect the immediate environment. There is no town, or city, or section of land that has no interesting stories connected with it—whether of early settlement, or industrial growth, or of its citizenry. Look into the local history, and give your groups a knowledge of, and pride in, their birthplace. This, incidentally, can often be of great use in dramatics or pageantry as natural outgrowths of the stories.

For romance and glamour, and when feeling is near the surface, give poetry freely. Do not confine yourself to reading it—let the group read stirring portions; let them read it in chorus. Poetry was meant to be spoken, not read silently. The Psalms were shouted from hill to hill; the Travels of Ulysses were chanted in the great halls of ancient Greece. Poetry is auditory, not visual. Give them moderns as well as classics. Let them chant Vachel Lindsay's *The Congo*, and *The Cal-*

lyope, and see what excitement they can arouse. Give them Carl Sandberg, Robert Frost, Walt Whitman, Alfred Noyes, Rudyard Kipling. Let them chuckle over *The Forty Singing Seamen* and shiver over *The Highwayman*.

Introduce them to naturalists and give them plenty of stories of bird and animal life. Love of nature is one of the characteristics of the romantic period—stories of the stars, of forests, of plant life, of water, of insects. Thoreau, Burroughs, and Audubon should become real to them.

Stories of the great musicians and artists belong to this period, and should be combined with examples of their music and art, supplemented by special trips to concerts, museums or galleries.

These groups need and can absorb all the mental stimulation we can give them. What they learn and feel here will be reflected in all of their future thought and used as standards for their future work and play. Let us give them the best that we can find. Show them the beauty and wonder of the world around them, and we will help them find their place in the sun.

Joint Conference

UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP of the Federal Inter-Agency Committee on Recreation, twenty Federal and non-governmental agencies met in Washington, on December third, for an exchange of ideas and for advice and suggestions as to the best methods for cooperating to further the development of the recreation program. This first meeting of a planned series of meetings was called primarily to discuss that phase of recreation concerned with the preservation of American beaches, wilderness areas and native landscapes. Similar meetings in the future will be held to discuss other topics and problems relating to recreation. A larger number of organizations will be invited to attend. Among those represented in December were the American Recreation Society, the American Institute of Park Executives and the National Recreation Association.

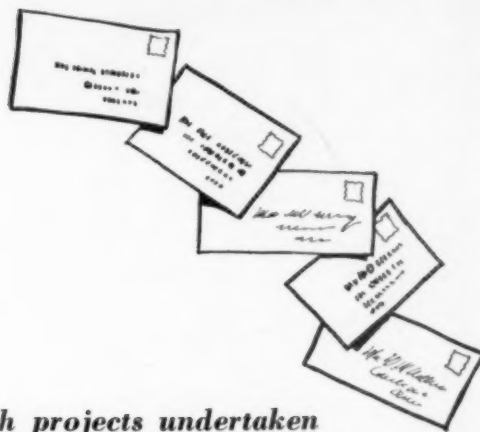
Although the conference was directed to the discussion of the conservation problems facing the recreation movement, it was informal, and numerous questions were raised for consideration. It was brought out that private organiza-

tions could best cooperate with the Federal agencies when kept informed not only of the general objectives of the Committee and its member agencies, but also of specific projects where the organizations could be of help.

Among the needs brought out were those for the preparation and distribution by the Committee of information as to what state governments are doing to bring about cooperation among state government departments active in the recreation field along the lines of the work of the Committee in the Federal area; the preparation and distribution of definitive statements of the activities services, and facilities for which each of the agencies on the Committee is responsible; and the release of all publicity and information possible by the Committee to private groups. The private groups were generous in their offers to cooperate by working through their membership to help preserve and increase the natural recreation resources of the country, and to disseminate through their publications, bulletins and otherwise, full information about the activities and plans of the Committee.

You Meet Such Interesting Facts

A summing-up of significant research projects undertaken by the National Recreation Association during the year 1947



RESearch HAS ALWAYS been a most important phase of the work of the National Recreation Association which has recognized the gathering, analysis and publication of information on various problems related to recreation as essential to effective work in the recreation field. Most of its significant research projects have grown out of expressed needs for information and/or guidance in various areas of work; and many have been carried on with the assistance and cooperation of committees composed of recreation executives and other qualified individuals.

Among interesting studies completed or carried on in 1947 are the following:

Recreation Year Book. Preparation involved an analysis of questionnaire reports submitted by 1790 agencies in 1530 municipalities and covering recreation services and facilities in 1743 communities. It necessitated correspondence with the cities submitting reports, a careful analysis of the information reported and a tabulation of summary data from the United States and Canada. The Year Book recording community recreation facilities, personnel, services and expenditures for 1946 was published in the June 1947 issue of RECREATION.

County Recreation. In view of the growing interest in the development of recreation programs on a county or regional basis, a rather comprehensive study was made of what county authorities and agencies are doing in the way of providing park and recreation services, facilities and programs. This involved not only considerable correspondence with county authorities but also field visits.

Introduction to Community Recreation. Work was largely completed on the revision of this volume which was originally issued in 1940 and which

is now in its ninth printing. This work involved correspondence with a large number of cities, and an analysis of literature and reports of developments in the recreation field in the last few years.

Community Recreation Buildings. In order to answer more effectively inquiries on community recreation buildings and to assist in the preparation of floor plans for such buildings, considerable study was given to literature on a variety of community recreation buildings of many types, and visits were made to a number of such buildings.

College and University Courses. A brief questionnaire was sent to colleges and universities inquiring as to the types of courses they are offering in the field of recreation. The 508 replies have been analyzed and plans are being made to secure more detailed information from the seventy-eight institutions reporting majors in recreation.

Fees and Charges. Because of the current widespread interest in this subject, a sampling study, involving visits to a number of cities and questionnaires submitted to a considerable number of recreation authorities, was undertaken. A summary of the results was distributed at the meeting on fees and charges at the National Recreation Congress.

Salaries and Education of Recreation Executives. Replies to the questionnaire sent out late in 1946 were summarized and widely distributed, bringing up-to-date information on salaries of recreation executives and their educational preparation.

Community Sports Programs. Work was largely completed on the preparation for a comprehensive manual dealing with community sports programs, their organization and administration.

Standards for Municipal Recreation Areas. To replace an earlier publication which is no longer

available, and to meet the need for up-to-date information for the guidance of authorities in the preparation of long range area plans, literature relative to standards for recreation areas was analyzed. A statement setting forth up-to-date recommendations for various types of recreation areas was prepared and will soon be available.

Recreation Services of Federal Agencies. After a study of the materials issued by various federal agencies furnishing recreation services, and consultation with representatives of these agencies, a comprehensive statement was prepared and published in a special issue of RECREATION.

Services of State Governments to Communities. Information as to the nature and scope of the services rendered by the various states to local communities in developing recreation facilities and in organizing programs was assembled and a summary of the findings published in RECREATION.

Clubs in the Recreation Program. Material assembled in a special study carried on in 1946 was reviewed and issued in a publication entitled "Clubs in the Recreation Program." This contains suggestions for club organization, administration, programs and methods whereby recreation departments can foster them.

Recreation for Older People. A booklet entitled "11% Plus — Recreation for Older People" is the result of a comprehensive study of programs for this age group.

Athletic Badge Tests. A start was made in the revision of the Athletic Badge Tests which have remained unchanged for many years. A considerable number of authorities were requested to send comments and suggestions with reference to the tests.

Park and Recreation Trends. An article dealing with park and recreation trends in 1946 was prepared for the Municipal Year Book and a beginning was made in assembling similar data for an article to appear in the 1947 issue.

Where Place Recreation? Considerable time was devoted to a continuing study of the effectiveness of different forms of local recreation organization.

Recreation Needs and Resources. An attempt to appraise the adequacy of existing recreation resources and programs and to estimate what needs to be done to serve adequately the recreation needs of individuals and communities.

Recreation Buildings in Small Towns. A brief study was made of existing recreation buildings in small communities with special reference to the relationship of recreation and democracy, and a

comprehensive statement was prepared for publicity use in connection with the Freedom Train.

National Recreation Congress. Suggestions sent by a large number of individuals as to desirable topics to discuss at the Recreation Congress were analyzed and incorporated in a set of suggested questions prepared for the guidance of the chairmen and panel members at the forty discussion meetings at the Congress.

Methods of Appointing Recreation Executives. An analysis of the authority responsible for the selection of the recreation executive in a large number of American cities.

Colliers Encyclopedia. Articles dealing with recreation and playgrounds were written to appear in the new edition of this encyclopedia.

Cooperative Projects. Among such projects, undertaken during the year, were: one in which assistance and advice were given to a number of graduate students in colleges and universities in the selection and development of studies in the field of recreation designed as doctor's or master's theses, and one in which suggestions were made on the editing of sections of the Proceedings of the National Conference on Facilities for Athletics, Health, Physical Education and Recreation sponsored by the Athletic Institute.

Continuous Research and Analysis. Magazines, reports, bulletins, booklets and other printed material reaching the Association in vast amounts were analyzed carefully to determine their possible value and use to the recreation movement. Out of this study, material was made available for use in RECREATION, in the various bulletin services, in the 1947 Summer Playground Notebook and in the special publications and information service. Bibliographies on various phases of recreation were revised and reissued after a considerable amount of research.

Projects for 1948

In addition to the current and continuous analysis of incoming material and the special projects that arise from time to time as the result of unanticipated needs, the following major projects are scheduled for 1948: Community Sports Programs; Introduction to Community Recreation; Community Recreation Buildings; Recreation Courses in Colleges and Universities; Athletic Badge Tests; Park and Recreation Trends; Recreation Needs and Resources; Salaries; Recreation Leadership Standards; State Recreation Legislation relating to (a) Enabling Acts, (b) State Services; Planning and Financing Recreation Areas and Facilities in Cities over 500,000.

Gustavus Town Kirby

Honored

ON JANUARY 22nd, Gustavus Town Kirby was given a testimonial dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City. The dinner was sponsored by a group of twenty-eight organizations with which Mr. Kirby has been officially identified, under the leadership of the Boys' Athletic League which he has served for many years as honorary president. Planned for his birthday, the affair took on the color and warmth of a birthday party. Two hundred friends enjoyed the festivities but no one more than the honored guest, who took special joy in blowing out the seventy-four candles on his birthday cake.

Dr. William E. Stevenson, President of Oberlin College, served as toastmaster. Seventeen warm and sincere tributes were paid Mr. Kirby by those at the speakers' table—including representatives of many of the sponsoring groups.

A statement on the printed program said, in part: "Few indeed have competed longer or in more sports than has Mr. Kirby. He has followed the maxim that it is better to compete and lose than merely to stand on the sidelines and cheer. In school and at Columbia he ran the four-forty and half mile, played football and baseball and captained the fencing team that won the intercollegiate championship. He has sailed boats to victories, ridden his horses over the jumps in many a show and followed the hounds in his own Westchester County, at Camden, South Carolina and in England and Italy. Always has he been prominent in the administrative field. Probably by reason of his own sports participation he, more than most, has brought to his many administrative positions that knowledge of the rules of competition, of sport for sport's sake, that makes for fairness, positiveness and success."

Mr. Kirby was presented with the Boys' Exposition Gold Medal. Quoting from the citation accompanying this award: "For your unselfish service in furthering the best interests of boys, as evidenced by your leadership in promoting the



Olympic Games and thereby setting a high example for all boys to the best in sportsmanship." The citation also mentioned, among other connections, Mr. Kirby's long service as treasurer of the National Recreation Association.

Representing the National Recreation Association, as one of the sponsoring organizations at the speakers' table, Otto T. Mallory of the Association's board said that Mr. Kirby, as treasurer, had handled many millions of dollars for the Association. "Money goes further and accomplishes more in the National Recreation Association," said Mr. Mallory, "than in any other organization with which I am familiar. Mr. Kirby, as a quarter-mile runner, might have run away with the cash but preferred to do his running unencumbered! As a member of the Board of Directors for many years, he participated in pioneering decisions. There were years in which playgrounds were few and far between and the public understanding of their need was meager. The original movement for the wiser use of leisure time by adults was at first ridiculed, and years were required before the right use of leisure was generally recognized as an important national asset. In this movement, and in many important decisions of the board, Mr. Kirby participated. He was always full of ideas, all of them enthusiastically presented. His enthusiasm and unceasing helpfulness through the years made him many friends, none of whom were lost. That is why so many friends are here tonight to celebrate his birthday and to honor him."



What can they be searching for?

The Egg and You



LONG LIVE SIR Bunny and the whole festive tradition of Easter—new bonnets, gay finery to be paraded on the Avenue; the Easter eggs so dressed up that no self-respecting hen would ever own them; soft, cuddly yellow chicks; the flowers that bloom in the spring. Easter just seems to bring out the artistry in all of us.

One of the most pleasant rituals of the holiday is the disguising of the common egg. This custom had its origin thousands of years ago—it is older than the Christian religion itself. The oldest written records trace the “Easter” egg back to some 5,000 years before Christ when the ancient Parsees exchanged colored eggs at their New Year’s festivals held in the early spring to celebrate the beginning of the new year. As Easter came at the same time, the practice was adopted by the Christians and continued in popular favor until the colored egg today is symbolic of Easter.

Since it takes all kinds of eggs to make an Easter basket, you’d better gather them together and we’ll go to work right away.

First, to turn a hen’s egg into a “bunny” egg, you may do one of two things. Either prick a tiny hole in each end of the egg with a large needle and blow out the inside or boil it for fifteen minutes. Eggs must be white and smooth; brown eggs or rough eggs will not take either color or wax. If you are designing your eggs for temporary use only, and would like to use them in a salad, use the boil method by all means. If yours is to be a keepsake egg, blow it and it is good indefinitely.

Some people prefer to add two tablespoons of salt to the boiling water to prevent the eggs from cracking.

Second, for eggs colored to perfection, use the harmless pure food dyes on the market during the

Easter season. Directions will be on the package.

Last, and one of the most important steps, is the actual designing of those eggs. Of course, a basket of eggs decorated in a rainbow of colors will be very attractive, but if you want that “special” look, here are a few suggestions* you may follow—and do give the youngsters a chance, too.

Easter Greeting—Stick a bunny seal from a package of assorted Easter seals (you will find some at your local stationers) right in the center of a heavenly blue egg. The Easter greeting can be cut from another seal in the same package and pasted under the bunny. To make a lily arch for your bunny to walk under, cut individual lilies from a lily cluster seal, and arrange in an arch.

Initialed Egg—Color this egg with orange egg dye. When dry, paste a strip of white lacy ribbon around it and decorate with little yellow rosettes and tiny green leaves. Make rosettes by rolling a two inch wide strip of yellow crepe paper up on itself to a thickness of a quarter of an inch. Then slice roll into quarter of an inch wide slices. Press thumb down on slices to make rosettes. Paste twisted crepe paper (made by pulling a one half inch wide strip of crepe paper through a twister, giving an added twist as you pull) to form desired initial on front of egg.

Make It Personal—Cover an egg with delicate pink crepe paper by winding it with a one half inch wide strip of crepe paper cut across the fold—just as you would wind a bandage, pasting it to hold. Trim with turquoise crepe paper cut in one half inch wide strips and braided by pasting ends of two strips together and folding one strip over the other. Paste braid to egg. Write name by pasting turquoise crepe paper twist in place as you did for initialed egg.



Another way of putting names (or designs) on eggs is to write or draw the pattern on the egg shell with a piece of beeswax. Then leave the eggs in vinegar for two or three hours. The vinegar eats away the part of the shell which is not protected by the wax, and will leave an engraved or raised design on the egg.

Illusion—This one certainly looks good enough to eat! A heavenly blue egg (wrapped in azure blue crepe paper) and "frosted" with white crepe paper twist, pasted in loops.

Easter Bunny House—Dye an egg bright green and paste a roof of shining red mat stock cut in a two inch square, folded across middle, to top of egg. Cut chimney in shape of an arrow—one and a half inches long. Paste to roof. Set egg on a base made from a strip of lightweight cardboard four and a half inches long and three quarters of an inch wide; slit one half inch up at one end and one half inch down on the other—then lock together. Paste a piece of white lacy ribbon around base. Paste a rounded strip of red (can be cut from a notarial seal) for door and stick a bunny seal in doorway.

Some of your other artistic work will require a "collar" or neck ring for your Easter egg, but this is a simple task to conquer.

The Egg's Resting Place—Make a cardboard "collar" standard to keep the face in an upright position. Cardboard the weight of that used in manila folders is the most practical. Cut a circle—with a diameter of three inches—out of cardboard. In the center of it, draw a concentric circle with a diameter of one and one half inches. Cut in from the outer edge, in a straight line, to the edge of the smaller circle and cut it out. Fold the edges of the "collar" over one another until the egg will stand upright when inserted in the circular hole at the top of the standard. Staple the edges together, and decorate the standards as you desire.

If you prefer, you can make a neck ring for your gay-fashioned egg by cutting a piece of drawing paper four inches wide and two inches high. It is then folded over so that it becomes only one inch high. Next it is pasted end to end to form a ring. The pointed end of the egg is then set into the neck ring.

Humpty Dumpty—The "wall" on which Humpty sits is a piece of mailing tube one inch wide, covered with red crepe paper and marked

off into bricks with white pencil. A four inch long piece of pipe cleaner, bent in the middle and pasted inside mailing tube, serves as legs, with bits of black passe partout stuck on ends for shoes. Humpty Dumpty's head is an egg, of course. His features are cut from colored seals; lashes and brows are drawn with black pencil. His belt is a strip of black passe partout with a gold signal dot for a buckle. His hat is a blue notarial seal with pie-shaped pieces cut out all around. Stick it at a jaunty angle to his head. And so you'll have put Humpty Dumpty together again—a feat that all the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't duplicate.

Easter Nosegays—Dye an egg brilliant red and paste tiny nosegays here and there over it. The flowers are made by cutting little ovals of various colors of crepe paper and twisting a full twist in the middle. Paste four of these twisted petals in different colors together in center of tiny circles cut from lace paper doilies. These are pasted here and there to the egg.



Personality Eggs—It's fun to paint egg faces. Paint the features on a hard-boiled egg with ordinary water colors. Cheeks may be pink or red; hair black, brown or yellow; eyes blue or black with

dark lashes. Lips, naturally, will be red. Construction paper hats, paper eyelashes or eyebrows, yarn or paper hair, perky bows or bow ties will add life to your Easter egg people.

With an extra dab of originality, you can add a touch of costume and magically turn your egg "faces" into recognizable individuals. For instance:

Uncle Sam—After drawing the outlines of his face (if in doubt, just look in your history book, at a cartoon or in any magazine or newspaper—he's a very popular fellow) with pen or ink, paste on white cotton, about one inch long, to represent hair—from one temple around the back and then to the other temple. Paste a small triangular piece of cotton on his chin for the beard. Add a star-spangled hat and collar, using the neck ring or standard as the base of the collar.

There you have your Easter eggs all ready for your holiday parties, feasts, games and egg hunts. You'll probably think of many more decorating variations as you go along—so happy inspiration and Happy Easter.

*Some of this information has been used by permission of the Dennison Manufacturing Company.



Young Folks Make History

A Story of the Happy Hoboes and Sad Sacks of Indianapolis, Indiana

ONE COLD FRIDAY evening in the latter part of January 1945, six teen-aged boys met in a small room at Crossroads, rehabilitation center of the Marion County Society for the Crippled. All were handicapped, several of them wheel chair cases.

The idea was to form a recreation club for handicapped teen-agers. Officers were elected, and a name chosen—"The Happy Hoboes."

Despite many criticisms and protests from the fair sex, the Happy Hoboes continued a strictly male group for over a year. But in March of '46, a party was given and girls invited "just for the novelty of the thing." It was only then that the Hoboes came to the conclusion that having girls around was not so bad after all. By popular vote it was decided to accept them as members.

Naturally the girls were not so keen about being called hoboes so, with a subtle bit of sarcasm, they selected their own name, "The Sad Sacks." Everyone was happy. And in 1946 a girl was elected president of what was now the Happy Hoboes and Sad Sacks.

Expanding steadily, the group has long since outgrown the room in which it was first organized. The club now meets in Crossroads Auditorium, under the supervision of its good friends and counselors of the American Women's Voluntary Services. These meetings mean so much—and are, for many a hobo and sack, the only social life they have.

Aside from conducting the business of the organization, the meetings are social affairs. Sometimes movies are shown; occasionally interesting guests are invited for talks and demonstrations. Always there are games, music and the fun of visiting with each other.

At a recent meeting the hall was a beehive of

activity. The treasurer was using an adding machine to figure up his "outstanding accounts." These amounted to \$16.40 and he was "threatening" to crack down on people who failed to keep their dues paid. There was laughter, singing, and plenty of ice cold soft drinks and generous wedges of home-made cake for everybody. Children in wheel chairs were playing ping pong. All were having fun in a big way and crutches, canes, braces and wheel chairs were not permitted to interfere.

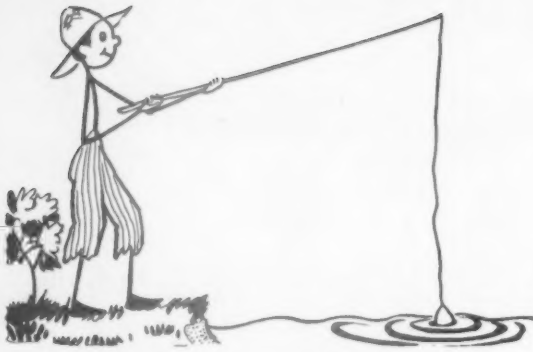
When weather permits, the members enjoy wienie roasts and other outdoor activities. Many attend the summer camp and six-week day camp conducted each year by the Marion County Society for the Crippled. At last year's summer camp, the croquet tournament was won by a boy in a wheel chair—the club's vice president.

The club has its own officers, by-laws, membership cards and the necessary entertainment and transportation committees. In this organization, the transportation committee is tremendously important as some of the members must be transported in the Crossroads station wagon, a gift of the A.W.V.S. The committee does a bang-up job with a map of the City of Indianapolis and colored markers designating the various addresses of the wheel chair cases. When necessary, the committee can get "tough." If the family has a car—no transportation is supplied for junior.

The Happy Hobo and Sad Sack Chorus meets for practice on alternate Friday nights. The chorus has acquired quite a reputation for its rendition of Stephan Foster melodies. In fact, a number of requests for out-of-town appearances have had to be turned down.

Yes, these young folks make "history" just by being members of this unique organization of handicapped children.

They're Nuts!



The Isaac Walton's and the Nimrods evidently top the list . . .

Nathan L. Mallison

OF COURSE THEY'RE nuts. And thank God they are, because they are the sanest people in a mad world. Politely, and in a vernacular free from slang, we are referring to those hobby-riding equestrians whose avid pursuit of happiness sometimes exposes them to the ridicule of their prosaic neighbors.

"A hobby is something you go nuts about to keep from going crazy" is the way one observer defines a pastime so engrossing that it annihilates the passage of time. In recreation work, we are exposed to these beloved screwballs in such a way that their foibles become virtues and their idiosyncrasies turn to towers of strength.

Let's focus our detection apparatus on a few different species of the "nut family." The Isaac Walton's and Nimrods evidently top the list. The former group involves people who classify themselves as anything from "fishermen," who catch a mess of fish and eat them, to "scientific anglers" who regard themselves as artists in the handling of a frail fly rod.

Menke, in the *Encyclopedia of Sports** estimates there are around 12,000,000 folks who fish in the country, and cites the fact that 8,280,232 bought fishing licenses in a given fiscal year. As spenders, these rod wielders dispense an estimated ONE BILLION TWO HUNDRED MILLION dollars every twelve months on their hobby. The firearms group, which includes both hunters and marksmen, is second in the group of free spenders. With about 10,000,000 in the combined group, they make an estimated annual outlay of \$650,000,000 in the pursuit of happiness via the hobby route.

*New Encyclopedia of Sports, Frank G. Menke, A. S. Barnes and Company, New York.

These unassuming ladies and gentlemen who hunt and fish seldom get eight column leads in the newspapers except in Florida, where we rate the catching of a giant blue marlin as equal to a home run in baseball. In the quiet pursuit of their pastimes, they spend a sum that far exceeds the cost of horse racing, football, baseball, dog racing, auto racing, hockey and polo. Mr. Menke is again the authority.

Not all people interested in sports or athletics are hobbyists. Most fishermen are. They seldom figure the cost, which is one mark of a real devotee. They rise at strange hours, drive to a favorite spot in the bleak, early hours, get wet and hungry, and—according to one cynic—"come home smelling of strong drink and the truth is not in them."

Golfers are usually rabid enough to be listed as "nuts." From three to six million of them are in the excavation business on the nation's fairways, depending on the year. Some play the game for twenty-five years and then find it was too difficult for them in the first place. For those who don't believe they're "nuts," let's consider the facts. This game is played on 200 acres of selected cow pasture with pedigreed grass costing a dollar a blade. Hills, lakes, sand traps, trees and other obstructions to navigation are thrown in to make the game more exasperating (and profane). Also involved are eighteen holes or tin cups sunk in superdooper grass which grows in patches called "greens." It sells for five dollars a blade. Well, sir, the object of this game is to propel a small white pellet around the course in the fewest strokes and the largest number of words. This is done with three hundred dollars worth of curious looking implements. Some people know the purpose

of these implements. They are the exceptions. Four liars, who can't add beyond eighty-seven, usually play this game together, take a shower "en quartet" and sing "Sweet Adeline" the same way before calling it a day.

Now you would think that ardent hobby riders (nuts to us) would have a wholesome respect for the spirit actuating their contemporaries in another hobby. Unfortunately, they do not, as evidenced by the following story.

A foursome of golfers were sloshing down the fairway at Ponte Vedra in what we Floridians call a cloudburst. (Californians call it a heavy dew.) Rivulets ran down their anatomies into their shoes. In nearby Pablo Creek, three equally drenched fishermen sat in an anchored rowboat. As one of them spied the golfers, he remarked to his companions, "Look at those durn fool golfers over there playing in all this rain!"

We have considered some of the cocoanut-sized members of the genus "nuts." Now, let us regard some of the filberts and hazel nuts in the family. The model plane and miniature auto builders seem to qualify as nuts of the smaller variety financially, but, as de luxe products of the first order from a standpoint of interest in their hobbies, they can't be beat. I have watched eyes go back and forth at a tennis match, but for a self-administered chiropractic adjustment to the cervical vertebrae, try following a miniature auto on a thirty-five foot line or its aerial counterpart, the control-line model plane, which invades another dimension. These little contraptions have a one-lung motor that will fit in the palm of the hand but when it "revs" up, the sound is like ten hives of agitated bees.irate citizens (fishermen, no doubt) have protested the racket on every playground in the city. In desperation, we finally established a "hobbyland" near the incinerator. To date, the operators of the incinerator have filed no protest. A few weeks ago, I took in one of our invitation miniature auto meets. Miniature auto builders had come from as far as Illinois and New Jersey because they heard we had a fast track. They were right. The world's record was broken four times that afternoon by miniature prototypes, a foot long and powered by motors with less than a cubic inch piston displacement. In greeting the out-of-towners, I found one who was a commissioner of a large city, relaxing from the strain of politics.

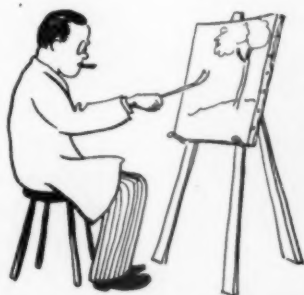
Control-line model airplane flying is the newest addition to the

model flying hobby. Some model flyers now fly to distant model meets in their own passenger-carrying planes. One of the men, at a recent meet of ours, was the designer of the Thomas-Morse, America's first pursuit plane in W.W.I. His son was in the same contest. The control-line flyer is as skilled as a real flyer. He can do aerobatics with this plane, and two of them sometimes stage a "dog fight" with planes missing each other by inches. The other devotees of model aeronautics are just as "nutty." Imagine spending fifty hours and fifty dollars on a plane and then having it disappear into the first fat cumulus cloud that comes along!

Another group of maniacs who deserve a high place in the nuts' hall of fame is the army of collectors. Names of what they collect could fill a large volume. Flags, old arms, coins, stamps, cigar bands, pictures of famous boats, old books, antique furniture—these are just a few items. One of the finest and oddest in the galaxy of collector's items is the hobby of a local citizen. When someone shows him an unexpected courtesy, he notes the incident and the name of the person on a card and files it away. He has several thousand entries and he finds the world a good one for those who look for better things.

There are many other nuts on the hobby tree who are keeping rational in an unsteady world. For twenty-eight months I rubbed shoulders with some of them who were stationed on minute islands in the Pacific. They made things with their hands. Salvaged shell cases became everything from ash trays to church candlesticks. We even had a Solomon Islands Art Show. Seabees made many a war club which they turned over to native Melanesians. The natives then paddled around the harbor in their primitive dugouts, selling the clubs to gullible sailors of the merchant marine. Maybe the craftsmen slowed up the war effort by making shell necklaces. Even if they did, they were smart, because they came home under their sea bags and not in straight jackets.

The writer of this article? He's a nut, too! He goes on long canoe cruises weekends, getting started when some folks are returning from night clubs. He also takes hundreds of pictures on these trips. Some people might think such a hobbyist is crazy. One of them once indicated that two o'clock in the morning was rather early to start on a canoe trip. We argued that it was no more peculiar than going for a horseback ride at the



There are many other nuts on the hobby tree who are managing to keep rational in an unsteady world . . .

same time. Our critic wanted to know who was crazy enough to do that and we told him, "Paul Revere."

In our Recreation Department in Jacksonville, we have found that a nut doesn't live just for himself. He may be critical of others' hobbies, but he is willing to share his own. His enthusiasm is catching, so he makes a top-flight volunteer, and we really use him in his chosen field. As a matter

of fact, we maintain a "nut list" and when a self-starting, highpowered "no dollar a year man" is needed, a little research will turn up the right man. No professional can radiate such enthusiasm; his work pays dividends in happiness, while saving wear and tear on the director's storehouse of energy.

"An idle mind is the devil's workshop"; a thriving hobby shop is its purpose!

Recreation Forces Urged to Aid Citizens Food Committee

AT A SPECIAL meeting of some 100 national, recreation, education, civic, social and patriotic organizations called by Charles Luckman, Chairman of the Citizens Food Committee, the basic facts of the food situation in Europe were

presented, and an urgent request made for cooperation in this emergency.

Careful consideration of the facts presented by Mr. Luckman and representatives of the Department of State, Commerce and Agriculture and visitors returning from Europe convinced us that wholehearted cooperation with the food saving program is a patriotic duty.

As a cooperating organization, the National Recreation Association urges all local recreation agencies to take such action as will help in securing a quick understanding and acceptance by the public of the President's emergency food saving program. Your local food committee can provide suggestions of ways you can help.

Saving *wheat* and *meat* now not only will help save lives in Europe, it may save the *peace*.

Recreation forces of the nation ever ready to respond to calls for help again have a chance to put their strength behind a program of tremendous importance to the country and to the world.

Now is the time, for instance, to start planning gardens. That such planning should tie-in with food conservation is obvious. Why not use this season of the year as a springboard for a lively campaign in your community?

For posters, suggestions for help in carrying out the program in your community, Peace Plate recipes, and other pertinent material, write Citizens Food Committee, Executive Office of the President, Washington 25, D. C.



"Woman of the Year"

FOR THE FIRST time in a full century of operation, the Board of Education of Akron, Ohio, has selected a woman as president. This honor and responsibility have been given to Mrs. Anne T. Case, who has a long standing record of unselfish interest and activity in Akron's civic and educational matters.

Trained in social work, Mrs. Case has been an active volunteer in many civic groups. She is an honorary member of the Akron Social Workers Club. In 1938, she was named Akron's "Woman of the Year" in a Sunday forum conducted by the *Akron Beacon Journal*. She is an ex-president of a number of local organizations, including the Young Women's Christian Association, the Council of Home and School Leagues, and the Akron and Summit County Federation of Women's Clubs. She has been a member of the Akron Recreation Commission since it was established. At the twenty-second Annual District Conference of the recreation executives of Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia, which was held in Akron in April 1946, Mrs. Case received from the mayor of the city a ten-year service award in recognition of her continuous service on the recreation commission.

Responding to a letter from Howard Braucher, congratulating her upon her selection as president of the Board of Education, Mrs. Case recently wrote: "As I read your gracious letter expressing good wishes for Akron and for me, 'memories come crowding in for recreation.' Whatever volunteer service I have been privileged to give has been rewarded a thousand-fold, for I have had the opportunity to see—firsthand—the happiness of boys and girls, interesting and wholesome channels for the energies and enthusiasm of teen-agers, and for adults, relaxation from the tensions and pressures of modern life. It is really inspiring to me that the busy President of the National Recreation Association finds time to be interested in our comings and goings in faraway Akron. Please accept my grateful appreciation."





Baseball bats are dusted off and brought into action.



Skipping rope again brings gaiety to city pavements.



Bruin strays from his cave to sniff the sunshine.

Spring is Just Around the Corner

IT IS IN the sun, the soft air, the jaunty step, the play of children. Everyone spends longer hours out-of-doors. It is time for recreation departments to turn to the consideration of plans for parks and playgrounds, outdoor programs. Camping days are in the offing, and there is much to be done. Watch for the next issue of RECREATION—the Playground Issue—April 1948, for spring program suggestions.

Soon old-timers will move their chess to the parks.





Birds briskly take up the duties of family raising.



Outdoor play periods for tots increase in frequency.



Sidewalks ring to the lively sound of roller skates.

It would not be Spring without boys and their kites.



Hop Scotch tournaments are the order of the day.



RECREATION HAD A prominent place in the National Conference on Social Welfare Needs held in Washington, January 26 and 27, under the sponsorship of the National Social Welfare Assembly. The Assembly is a national council for cooperative planning in the social welfare field. Its membership is composed of delegates from some forty governmental and voluntary agencies and between five and six members at large chosen from among the civic leaders of American communities.

The Conference received, and approved, reports from seven commissions: recreation, education, health, housing, social security, special services for children, and youth and citizen participation. Among those who participated in the drafting of the report of the Commission on Recreation under the chairmanship of Dr. Ben Miller, Executive Secretary, American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, were:

Bernice Bridges, Director, Youth Division, National Social Welfare Assembly, Inc.; Charles Brightbill, Recreation Services, Veterans Administration; E. Dana Caulkins, Superintendent of Recreation, Westchester County Recreation Commission; Milo Christiansen, Superintendent of Public Recreation, Washington, D. C.; George Dickie, Executive Secretary, Federal Inter-Agency Committee on Recreation; John McDowell, National Federation of Settlements; Thomas Rivers, National Recreation Association; Ott Romney, Chairman, Recreation Policies Committee, University of West Virginia; Helen Rowe, Camp Fire Girls.

The report of the Conference on Social Welfare Needs states:

Recreation is a *basic human need*. It is that part of every person's life which is concerned with the pleasant and constructive use of leisure time.

Recreation contributes to the satisfaction of fundamental human appetite such as the hungers for self-expression, creativity, belonging to a group and being wanted, recognition, competition, self-protection, health and adventure. It includes those things which the individual chooses to do in his time out of school, or off the job, for the satisfaction found in the doing.

In an era of machines and high specialization, when leisure time is increasing with a startling rapidity, recreation becomes important as a means of satisfying the hunger for living a full life free from monotony. As an end in itself, it is supplemented by important social dividends. It has proved its value in building positive physical and mental health; in maintaining and restoring emotional balance; in protecting children from injury

Recreation—A

and death caused by playing in unsafe places; and in helping to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Recreation activities also afford a unique opportunity for promoting appreciation of other people and understanding among diverse racial and cultural groups; and for education for democratic living and international cooperation.

Scope and Content of Recreation

To meet the needs of people through recreation, it is necessary to provide a wide variety of activities differing according to the interests and experience of individuals, the resources available and the community setting.

Recreation services and facilities should be provided for children, adolescents, youths, adults and the aged of all geographic areas, for both sexes, and for all cultural and racial groups.

Well-developed community recreation services provide the following opportunities:

1. *Provision for self-directed opportunities*

Places for individuals to go and equipment to use, such as libraries, museums, picnic areas, movies, golf courses, tennis courts, fishing, hunting, hiking and camping.

Programs to encourage family participation, such as hobbies, music, games in the home and facilities for the use of family groups outside the home.

2. *Provision for organized activities and hobbies, under leadership*

Opportunities are needed for participation in a wide variety of activities which, by their nature, must be organized, administered and guided, and which may require equipment. Illustrations are team games, music, arts and crafts, dances, nature study, swimming and camping.

Individuals need opportunities for group life. Experience in group association is one of the ways in which youth and young adults acquire social objectives and habits, learn to accept responsibilities, and to exercise leadership. In groups, adults achieve the satisfactions which accompany the pur-

Basic Human Need

suit of common interests, purposes, values and social action. Group association, however, requires leadership which is concerned with developing a process within the group by which decisions come about as a result of knowledge and a sharing and integration of ideas. Group life provides for the development of individuals and for desirable inter-group relations. Program activities engaged in by organized groups are considered instrumental to the achievement of the objectives for the social development of individuals and groups.

For certain individuals who are maladjusted, association in small groups can be directed so as to serve a more precise and positive social purpose, namely, socialization and guidance.

Considerable recreation is initiated and carried on by individuals and families. However, in view of the universal need and the variety of interests and activities, recreation is a concern of many sponsoring agencies including governmental, voluntary, private and commercial, which provide diversified opportunities.

Unmet Needs

FACILITIES—Adequate land and water space for neighborhood recreational use should be acquired and protected in the early stages of community planning. There should be full use of schools and other community buildings for recreation.

PERSONNEL—There are not, at present, recreational leaders adequate in number and professional preparation. Needed are: a) wider applications of high standards of personal qualifications, professional education, and experience; b) adequate salaries in line with those paid in education, government, and other related fields; c) greater social and economic security including provisions for retirement and other sound personnel practices; d) qualitative and quantitative standards for professional leadership education.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION FOR RECREATION—Correlation of tax-supported, voluntary, and commercial programs is needed to plan for use to the fullest possible extent; to correlate existing ser-

vices and to create new services for unmet needs; to develop the means of support and control the standards of recreational agencies and establishments so as to assure the highest quality of service from each; to develop opportunities outside the immediate locale including national and international recreational experiences.

UNDERSERVED GROUPS—Included are thousands of small communities and rural areas; minority groups, such as Negroes and certain nationality groups; neighborhoods which have less service than others in the same city; girls and women who are generally less well-provided for than boys and men; special groups such as the aged, the hospitalized, and the physically and mentally handicapped.

PUBLIC SUPPORT—To provide adequate recreational opportunities to meet the needs of all our people, a great deal more financial support is essential.

Principles and Recommendations

The Commission on Recreation offers the following principles and recommendations for the consideration of communities and organizations vitally concerned with the welfare of citizens. It is recommended that the community should provide:

1. Definite provision for individuals to engage voluntarily in a wide variety of activities;
2. Equal opportunities for services and facilities in all geographical areas, for both sexes, all ages, and all cultural and racial groups;
3. Opportunities for participation throughout the entire year, and for all periods when substantial groups of the population have free time;
4. Reasonable balance between indoor and outdoor activities and between participation and passive enjoyment;
5. Definite provisions for group life and sufficient individualization in the conduct of group activities to ensure the educational values inherent in such group association;
6. A recreation coordinating and planning body related to planning for education, welfare and other services;
7. Adequate public and private finances to meet the needs of its citizens for recreation;
8. A carefully organized program of public relations to interpret the work of the agencies;
9. A definite program of study and research to keep abreast of the needs and changing conditions in the community;
10. As a part of city planning, adequate land and water should be designated to meet present and future recreational needs;

11. Maximum opportunities for the use of all schools and other community resources.

Agencies and organizations should have a carefully formulated philosophy of work, made specific in statements of objectives and goals. The personnel of the agencies should include competent, professionally educated, and well paid leadership as well as capable, trained volunteers.

Summary

Recreation is a basic human need and is a voluntary activity enjoyed during leisure time. The strain of modern living and increased leisure contribute to this need. Recreation is important as a means of self-expression and of maintenance of physical and mental health and emotional stability; and in providing opportunities for social relationships and group experiences lacking in the daily life of most people.

It is a concern of local, state and Federal government agencies, semi-public agencies supported by voluntary contributions, private clubs and organizations and commercial agencies. All must have continued and expanded support if our recreation needs are to be fully met.

Outstanding major lacks in present services:

1. Adequate recreational spaces and facilities are not available in all communities, often because of failure to acquire or set aside such space through community planning.
2. Professional personnel, adequate in number and training, are not now available to meet community needs.
3. Coordination of recreation services is often not carefully organized and administered.
4. Many community programs lack desired balance and quality.
5. Girls and women, minority, low income, rural

and aged groups are sadly underserved or unequally served in many parts of the country.

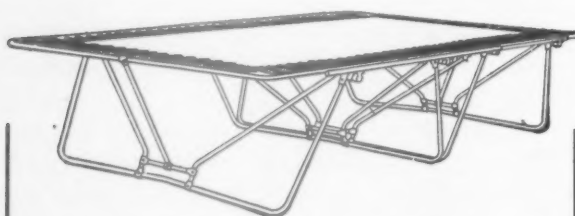
6. Inadequate financial provision is almost universal.

7. Increased services are needed for those in hospitals and institutions.

PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS—Communities must meet the recreation needs summarized above. Among other things they should:

1. Provide a wide variety of activities.
2. Provide equal services and facilities to all geographical areas, for both sexes, for all age groups and for the different cultural and racial groups.
3. Conduct activities and operate facilities throughout the entire year and for the different periods of free time.
4. Maintain a reasonable balance between indoor and outdoor activities and between participation and passive enjoyment.
5. Make definite provision for group life and for sufficient individualization of group activities to insure their potential educational value.
6. Provide adequate public and private finances.
7. Have recreation planning bodies related to the planning for education, welfare and other community services.
8. Include recreation in all city planning and use all resources such as schools for recreation.

Recreation agencies, public and voluntary, should have carefully formulated philosophies of work, made specific in statements of aims, objectives and goals; use competent, trained and well paid professional leadership and capable, trained volunteers; develop public support through carefully organized programs of public relations; and establish definite programs of study and research to keep abreast of changing needs and conditions.



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World at Play



Aim for Better Health—"A Practical Health Program for Myself and My Family: Learn What We Ought to Know—Health Education. Do What We Ought to Do—Healthful Living," is this year's objective of NATIONAL NEGRO HEALTH WEEK. The thirty-fourth observance, held April 4-11, directs attention and interest to the need for practical application of health information and healthful habits to the individual and the family in the home and community. A preliminary Health Week Bulletin is available to assist community organizations in the planning of activities for a successful program. For further information on the official Health Week publications, day-by-day program schedules, the poster contest and other features, write National Negro Health Week Committee, Federal Security Agency, Public Health Service, Washington 25, D. C. Bibliographies of resources for health materials available, free of charge, from National Recreation Association.

Cementing Good Relations—On April 14, the Pan American Union will be fifty-eight years old. This year's birthday slogan is: "The Americas Must Serve Mankind." In conjunction with this theme, a special committee at the Pan American Union again has prepared program material that is at once informative and entertaining. The results of its labors are ready for free distribution in English, Spanish or Portuguese, but a limited supply deems it necessary that it be sent only to teachers or adult groups. Material can be obtained from the Pan American Union, Department of Information, Washington 6, D. C., and the choice

includes a poster emphasizing the slogan, a booklet on "The Inter-American System," and program suggestions for observing the anniversary.

Training for Immediate Use—Interesting recreation leadership training institutes will be undertaken by the State College of Washington at Pullman and the University of Florida at Gainesville this spring and summer. The University of Florida's General Extension Division, under Dean B. C. Riley, has worked out a schedule of fourteen three-day institutes in as many Florida communities to help professional and lay recreation leaders with leadership techniques and program problems. Mrs. Anne Livingston of the National Recreation Association will conduct the institutes and Ralph Van Fleet, the Association's district representative, will organize them. The series began at Pensacola on March 4 and will end at Miami on April 21. For further information, send a letter to Dean Riley.

The State College of Washington is endeavoring to provide a special early summer training program compressed within the six weeks of June 14-July 23. Six separate and distinct one-week units or courses are to be given during that period, and students will be able to obtain one hour credit for each of the six courses. Miss Helen Dauncey of the National Recreation Association will conduct courses in social recreation and playground activities during the weeks of June 21 and 28. Other courses will include square and couple dancing, arts and crafts, camping, recreational sports. For information, write to Dr. Helen S. Smith, Director of Recreation Institute.

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Recreation

Suggestion Box

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Rambling Theatre

The Oak Ridge Rambling Theatre of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, (a summer project), was mounted on a one and one-half ton truck, consisting of the truck bed, two sides and a tail gate. A piano was anchored to the floor at the back of the cab, and furniture and other props needed were borrowed from the playground where the show was being presented.

Upon reaching the playground, the sides on the truck were brought down, thus making a stage seventeen feet by eleven feet. During the three weeks that the theatre was in operation, four different variety shows and two plays were presented to playground audiences numbering more than 1500 children and adults. Youngsters participated in the variety shows which featured tap dancers, skits, comedy acts, and instrument solos.

Unique Apparatus

Jackson Park, Temple, Texas, uses an old army plane as playground apparatus. The plane has been made safe for boys and girls to play on by dismantling it of all of its working parts. Made of durable material, it should last a long time. See below:



A spur to the imagination, children fly many miles on this exceedingly popular piece of equipment.

More About Flag Football

Alhambra, California, has had many requests for further information regarding Flag Football, following the write-up in the Suggestion Box, November 1947 RECREATION. Mr. John G. Bucknum, of Alhambra, therefore passes on the following to those who may wish to use the game but who have not written for rules:

Instead of one red flag carried by each player, we use two white flags, one placed under the players' belt on each hip. This gives the defense a fair opportunity to reach the ball carrier's flag from any angle. We find it also removes, to a great extent, the temptation for the ball carrier to "run over" the defensive man. Since all of our games were played at night under lights, the color of the flags makes quite a difference. We found that white blends less with the players' clothing and gives the defense a better break. No flying blocks are permitted, thus leading to a screen type of blocking which removes much of the danger of injury.

Despite the fact that we had two leagues (twelve teams) playing complete rounds, there were no tie games, though many scores were 7-6, 13-12, and so on. Almost without exception, the games were evenly contested—with few teams being held scoreless and with the margin of victory seldom more than one touchdown. We plan to enlarge our Flag Football program next fall.



Next Recreation Congress

The 30th National Recreation Congress will take place at Omaha, Nebraska, September 26 to October 1, 1948. Set aside that date on your calendar NOW. Plan your budget. More information will be forthcoming soon.



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Portland, Oregon
March 29-31; April 5, 6
Eugene, Oregon
April 7-9; 12, 13
Yakima, Washington
April 19-23
Tacoma, Washington
April 27, 28; May 4-6

RUTH EHLERS
Social Recreation

York, Pennsylvania
March 8-10
Pennsylvania State College
March 11-13
Richmond, Virginia
March 15-19

Pennsylvania
March 22-26
Jefferson County, Kentucky
March 29-April 9

Memphis, Tennessee
April 19-23

ANNE LIVINGSTON
Social Recreation

Chipley, Florida
March 8-10
Tallahassee, Florida
March 11-13
Live Oaks, Florida
March 15-17
Jacksonville, Florida
March 18-20
Lakeland, Florida
March 22-24
Orlando, Florida
March 25-27
Gainesville, Florida
March 29-31
Tampa, Florida
April 5-7
Punta Gorda, Florida
April 8-10
Fort Pierce, Florida
April 12-14
West Palm Beach, Florida
April 15-17
Miami, Florida
April 19-21

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Miami, Florida
April 5-16
Miami Beach, Florida
April 5-16
Pittsfield, Massachusetts
April 26-May 7

GRACE WALKER
Creative Recreation

Blackstone, Virginia
March 8-12
Rustburg, Virginia
March 15-19
Gloucester, Virginia
March 22-26
New Haven, Connecticut
April 5-16

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Howard Schaub, Director of Physical Education,
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Mrs. H. S. Whitman, Council of Social Agencies

Miss Mary Howard, Superintendent of Recreation

Fred Coombs, State College

Harold K. Jack, Supervisor of Health and Physical
Education, Safety and Recreation, State Board of
Education

W. R. Gordon, in charge of Rural Sociology Extension,
Pennsylvania State College, State College

Charles Vettiner, Director, County Playgrounds and
Recreation, Armory Building, Sixth & Walnut Street,
Louisville

Chauncey Barbour, Recreation Department, Fair
Grounds

Dean B. C. Riley, University of Florida, Gainesville

Miss Kathryn Carmichael, Council of Social Agencies,
90 State Street

Pete Roberts, Superintendent of Recreation, Miami

B. B. Wheeler, Superintendent of Public Recreation,
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Elmer G. Vordenberg

ELMER G. VORDENBERG, seventy-one, died January 22, 1948, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Vordenberg will be remembered by his many friends as a hard, conscientious worker in behalf of public recreation for all. His fourteen years of service with the National Recreation Association began during World War I. He established a reputation for doing outstanding work in providing recreation for servicemen.

On the great occasion of the visit of the United States naval fleet to New York in 1930, Mr. Vordenberg was selected by the Mayor's Committee of New York to work out much of the detail in connection with the program designed to meet the needs of the men in their free time. One of his prized possessions was a letter written during the fleet's visit by the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, commenting on the program.

The letter said, in part: "The program is so comprehensive and so compact that it is particularly satisfactory. There is a strong feeling in the fleet that never before has a program so varied and generous, and yet so well-balanced, been arranged on the occasion of the fleet's visit. To map and to carry through so successfully such a program is a task of great magnitude, requiring much perseverance and no end of work. Your name has been given me as that of one individual who initiated the program and whose hard work was largely responsible for its emphatic success. I wish, therefore, to send you this expression of the appreciation of the Bureau of Navigation for the splendid program prepared by the Mayor's Committee of the City of New York, and in particular, for your own plans and work in behalf of the officers and men of the United States fleet."

In recent years, Mr. Vordenberg gave much of his time to recreation matters in, and near, his home city of Cincinnati.

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State Recreation News Notes

A BULLETIN HAS BEEN issued by the Federal Inter-Agency Committee on Recreation which summarizes information on cooperation of state recreation agencies in twenty-one states. Based on letters from governors, state officials and other sources, the bulletin reports that State Inter-Agency Committees on Recreation have been formed in Arkansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. The bulletin gives names and addresses of officers of these committees and names and addresses of officers and officials of California, North Carolina and Vermont Recreation Commissions and Boards, and of the Indiana and Minnesota Advisory Recreation Committees. There are also brief reports of cooperative activities among state agencies in Alabama, Colorado, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Copies of this bulletin can be obtained from George

E. Dickie, Executive Secretary of the Committee, Interior Building, Washington 25, D. C.

* * *

According to tabulations just completed by the Fish and Wildlife Service for the year ending June 30, 1947, the number of hunting licenses sold in the various states totaled 12,066,763, producing a gross revenue of \$28,558,447. These are the highest totals which have ever been recorded. Michigan was the only state to have more than a million resident hunters. Colorado headed the list of states attracting non-resident hunters with 116,147. Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Michigan, New York, Washington, California and Colorado each received over a million dollars in revenue. In total number of licenses sold, Michigan continued to head the list. Other leaders were Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, Minnesota, Colorado, Washington and Wisconsin.



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Authors in This Issue . . .

MURIEL W. EDGERTON—Library and research service, National Recreation Association. Poem on page 555.

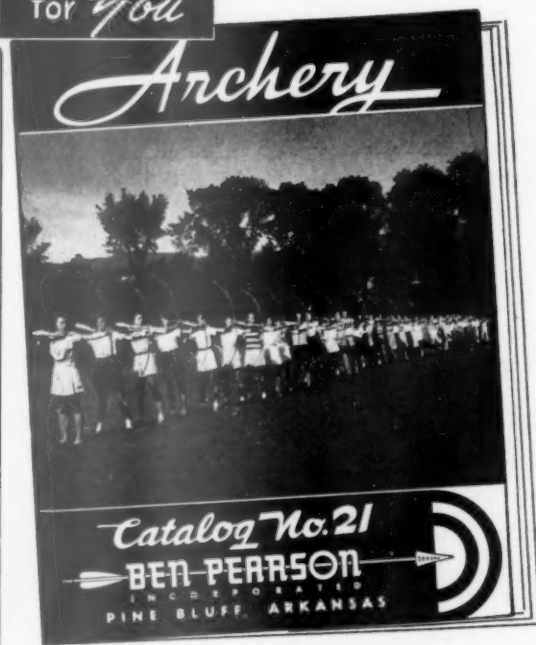
BERNARD J. O'SHEA—Executive Secretary, Board of Directors, Catholic Youth Organization, New York. Article on page 556.

ROBERT HUTCHINGS—Of the advertising firm of J. Walter Thompson, New York, Mr. Hutchings—always interested in promoting recreation interests—was director of publicity and public relations at the 29th Recreation Congress, on a volunteer basis. Article on page 559.

VIRGINIA MUSSELMAN—Consultation and Correspondence Bureau, National Recreation Association. Article on page 561.

NATHAN L. MALLISON—Superintendent of Recreation, Jacksonville, Florida. Article on page 572.

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Books Received

American Way in Community Life, The, by Samuel Steinberg and Daniel C. Knowlton. D. C. Heath and Company, Boston, Massachusetts. \$1.92.

... *And Promenade All ...*, by Helen and Larry Eisenberg. Published by the authors, 2403 Branch Street, Nashville, Tennessee. \$.50.

Basketball Illustrated, by Howard A. Hobson. A. S. Barnes and Company, New York. \$1.50.

Camping Can Be Fun, by Robert W. Weaver and Anthony F. Merrill. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$3.00.

Conscience on Stage, by Harold Ehrensperger. Abingdon-Cokesbury, New York and Nashville, Tennessee. \$2.00.

Good Times in the Rural Church, by Edward L. Schlingman. The Christian Education Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. \$1.25.

Rue Plays the Game, by Josephine Blackstock. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. \$2.50.

Sing Well—Speak Well, by J. Albert Fracht and Emmett Robinson. Remsen Press Division, Brooklyn, New York. \$3.75.

Town and Country Games, by Robert North. Thomas Y. Crowell Company, New York. \$2.50.

Treasury of Religious Plays, selected by Thelma Brown. Association Press, New York. \$3.00.

Trip Camp Book, The. Girl Scouts, National Organization, New York. \$.75.

Weekly Reader Parade, The. Simon and Schuster, Inc., New York. \$1.50.

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THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL appeared in the December 17, 1947 issue of the *Akron Beacon Journal*:

Food for Spirit

This is an advertisement for an advertisement. We urge every parent to read the life insurance company's ad on page twenty-five of Monday's *Beacon Journal*.

It tells the story of a delinquent boy and parents who failed to include him in their financial budget. They made provision for his food and clothing, and his education. But they neglected to provide for his free time. They "couldn't afford" to spend anything for his hobbies or his games.

"Set aside money for these," the advertisement urges, "as you would money for your children's food—in fact, they are food for the heart and spirit."

Juvenile delinquents aren't made on street corners and dives. They're made in homes, where parents "can't afford" to spend money or time to build their children's character.

We urge every parent to read this ad. Then honestly answer this question: "Am I doing enough for MY children?"

An honest answer and an honest effort will do much to check juvenile delinquency.

Preliminary nation-wide surveys for the year 1947 indicate that because of the increase in the high cost of living, the average family spent less money on recreation. Crime among youth is reported to be on the increase. These facts present a challenge to all youth serving agencies to increase the scope of their programs for constructive recreation opportunities for the fun, health and safety of boys and girls. *More recreation facilities should be made available to supplement overcrowded playgrounds.*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Are you a delinquent parent? A delinquent community? Let's take stock of ourselves!

MARCH 1948

Magazines and Pamphlets

(Recently Received Containing Articles of Current Interest to the Recreation Worker)

- Parks and Recreation*, November 1947
Florida's State Parks, Lewis G. Scoggin
Modern Trends in Legislation and Administration, George Hjelte
A Promotion Plan for Parks, Mrs. Max B. Kannowski
Maintenance Mart—New Plan for Permanent Park Signs
- NEA Journal*, November 1947
Producing Plays with Teen Agers, Nancy O'Neill
The Pollution Pendulum, E. Laurence Palmer
- National Parent-Teacher*, November 1947
The Way of a Child with Books, James Gray
- Behavior and Attitude Guidance in Boys' Clubs*, Boys' Clubs of America, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York.
- Survey Manual*, Clifford M. Carey and Leslie J. Tompkins, Young Men's Christian Association, Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Price \$1.50
- Board and Committee Service in the Y.M.C.A.*, Leslie J. Tompkins, Association Press, 347 Madison Avenue, New York 17, N. Y. Price \$1.00
- Recreation for All*, A Handbook for Leaders in Community and County-Wide Recreation, Division of Recreation, Department of Conservation, New State Office Building, Frankfort, Kentucky. September 1947
- Public Management*, November 1947
Highlights of the City Managers' Conference
Some New State Laws Affecting Cities, John C. Crowley
- Safety Education*, December 1947
Safety in the Gymnasium
- Journal of Health and Physical Education*, November 1947
Folk Dancing in the High School, Fred W. Franz
The Vulnerable Age, C. L. Lowman
Ice Skating in a Physical Education Curriculum, Nancy E. Houston
- Parents' Magazine*, December 1947
Open the School Door on Saturday, Harriet Eager Davis
- American City*, November 1947
Play's the Thing Again, Ronald D. Crater
- Bulletin of the American Library Association*, November 1947
The Preschool Story Hour, Ethel C. Karrick
- Youth Leaders' Digest*, December 1947
Of Questionable Value. Editorial
- Camping Magazine*, December 1947
A Bid for Major Camping, Calvin Rutstrum
Blueprint for Better Building, Bradford G. Sears
"La Theme du Camp," Esther Edwards
Sailing Can Be Safe, Reid Besserer
- National Parent-Teacher*, December 1947
The Magic Called Music, Augustus D. Zanzig
- Health and Physical Education*, December 1947
Beyond the Wheelchair, Leonore B. Cox
New Horizons in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, Joseph B. Wolfe, M.D.
How We Do It
- Beach and Pool*, November 1947
A Review of Swimming Pool Regulations
Organizing and Producing an Aquatic Pageant, Lillian A. C. Burke
- Parks and Recreation*, December 1947
Maintenance Mart



New Publications

*Covering the
Leisure Time Field*

Problems of Child Delinquency

Maud A. Merrill. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts. \$3.50.

DR. MERRILL, PROFESSOR of Psychology at Stanford University, has written a careful and helpful analysis of the delinquent child. She offers no panacea for the prevention or cure of delinquency, but attempts to enumerate and evaluate the various factors which must be considered. She emphasizes the important part the characteristics of the individual child play in its delinquent actions. Recreation and play are considered, and stress laid on the value of play as an important compensatory function for some of the thwarted motives of children, particularly in the younger years, and its value in releasing tensions that arise in conflict situations. Dr. Merrill's original contributions are based on a five year study of cases which passed through a county juvenile court, a five year follow-up of these cases, and a control group of the same number. In spite of all the disheartening experiences in dealing with delinquency, Dr. Merrill is optimistic in her summary. "We can say, at least, in defense of children who have been delinquent that, either because of our treatment or in spite of it, eighty-two percent in our group have been found to be fair or better than fair in their adjustment five years later." Although the material in this book is not sensational, it is well-balanced and should be helpful to all who are working with children, the non-delinquent as well as the delinquent.

Folk Dances for All

Michael Herman. Barnes and Noble, New York. \$1.00.

AN EXCELLENT COLLECTION of community dances from fifteen different countries, with illustrations, music, background notes and full directions, this little book has been put out as one of the

Every Day Handbook Series. The dances are colorful and gay, require no special skills, and are offered for community participation rather than for presentation to audiences. The use of folk dances of other countries can bring contributions of good fellowship, goodwill and the richness of cultural heritage to both the participant and the community.

Marinas

Supplement, 1947. Charles A. Chaney. National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers, Incorporated, 420 Lexington Avenue, New York 17, New York.

THIS VERY USEFUL manual is a supplement to an engineering handbook published in 1939 and prepared by the same author. It brings up-to-date developments in all phases of the design, construction and maintenance of waterfront facilities. The chapter headings indicate the wide scope of the book. They are: Preliminary Studies, Materials, Bulkhead Walls, Piers and Walks, Floating Equipment, Boat Handling Equipment, Breakwaters, Buildings, Utilities and Accessories, Management and Financial. Copies of this supplement are available, without cost, to civilian and government engineers, Federal, state, county and municipal officers, and clubs and private groups interested in marina constructions.

Adventures in Scrap Crafts

Michael C. Dark. Greenberg: Publisher, New York. \$4.00.

CREATING SOMETHING WORTHWHILE out of practically nothing is an exciting art. This three hundred seventy-five page book, with illustrations and helpful charts, is a "find" indeed! It delves into every phase of scrap craft, including types of materials and where to get them, tools and techniques of working with various materials, and explicit, step-by-step directions for each of these inexpensive projects.

Group Experience and Democratic Values

Grace L. Coyle. The Woman's Press, New York.
\$2.75.

"MUCH OF THE quality of any civilization obviously expresses itself in the way it uses its leisure time and its human resources." Thus writes Dr. Coyle, who is professor of group work in the School of Applied Social Sciences of Western Reserve University—and past president of the National Conference of Social Work and of the American Association of Social Workers. In her chapter on recreation, she says, "The opportunity for friendship, for the stimulating interplay of congenial spirits, for the creative expression of powers, for the personal security and expansion of ego that arise out of belonging to a group—it is these and similar elements which make the group worker give pre-eminence to the aspect of human relations in the provision of recreation." The book is divided into three parts: 1) Leadership in Voluntary Associations; 2) Group Work in Recreation—Education Agencies; 3) Social Work and Social Action.

Equipment

A NEW AND COMPLETE manual—*Floodlighting Plans for Sports and Recreations*—which has been put out by the Illuminating Laboratory of General Electric Company in Schenectady, presents up-to-date lighting plans for: model community recreation centers; archery ranges; badminton courts; ball fields and so on. Write above address.

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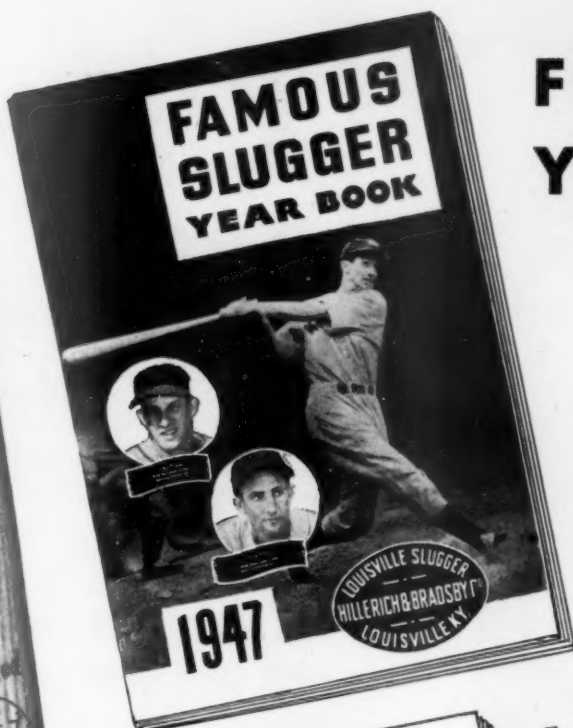
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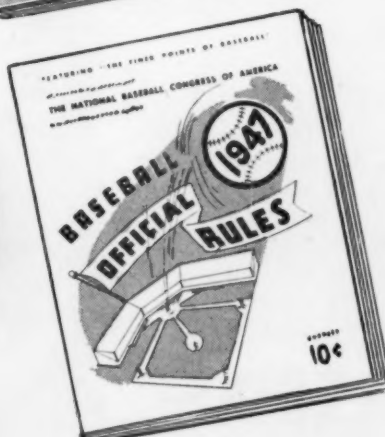
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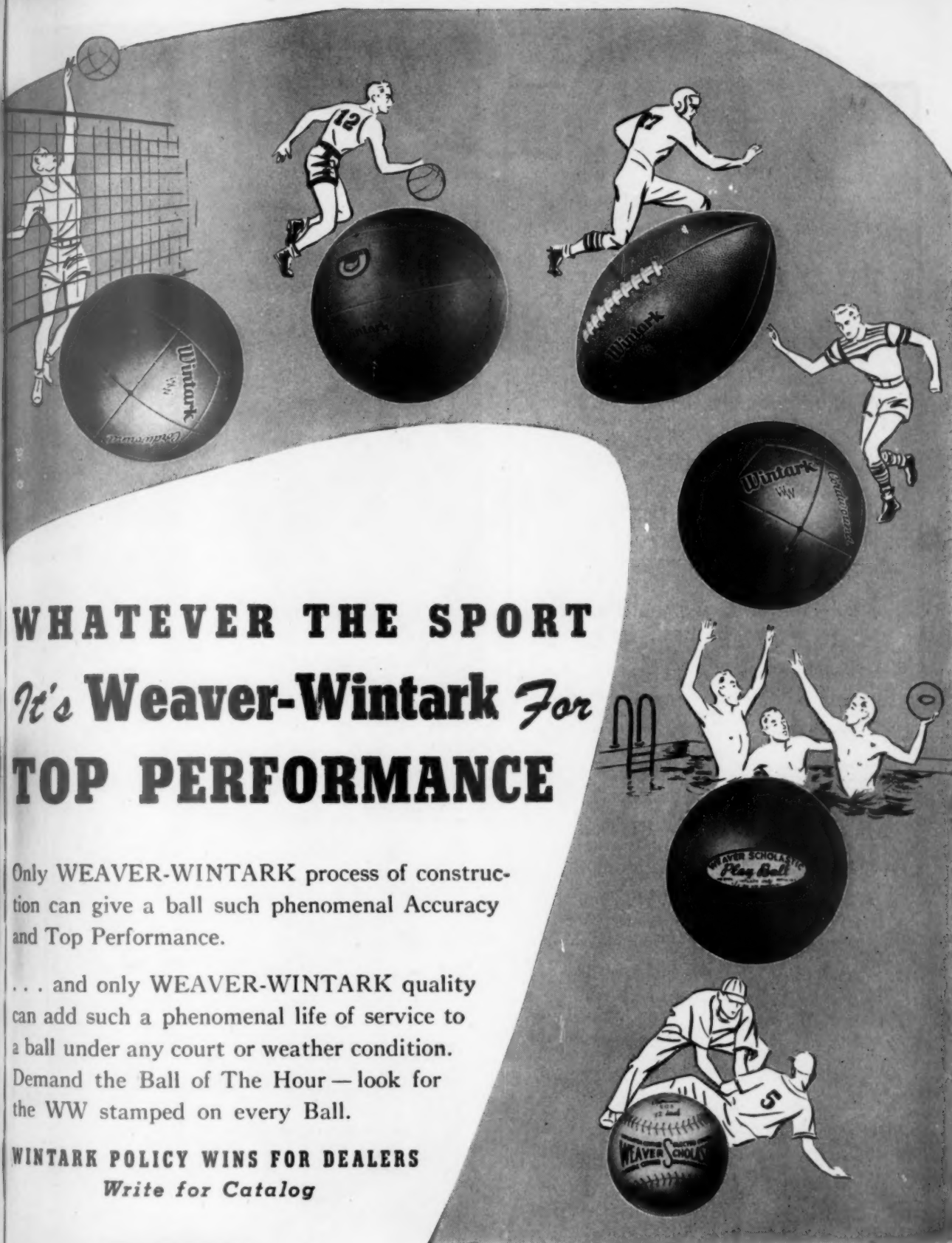
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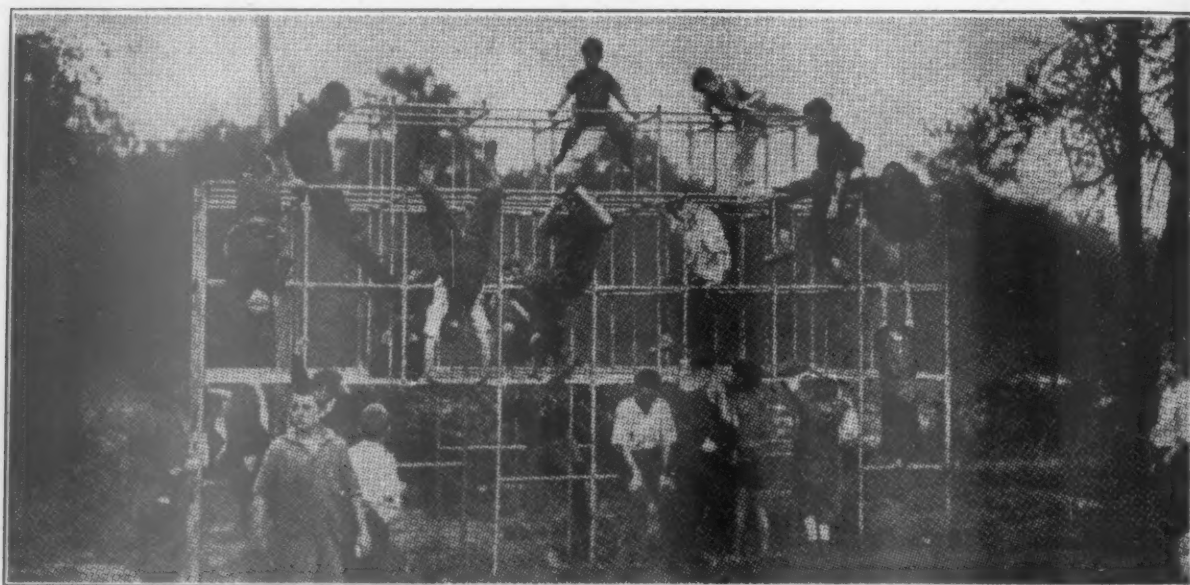
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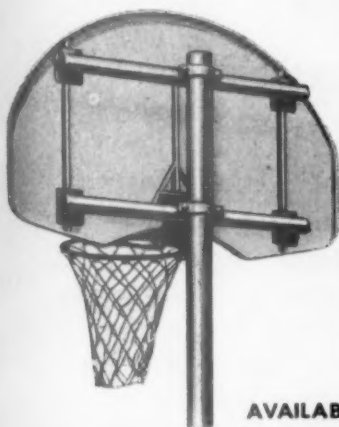
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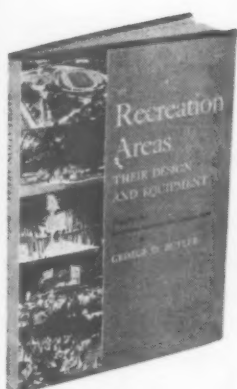
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Prepared for the
National Recreation
Association

by **MARY J. BREEN**

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★ Out of some cold figures, came a story to warm America's heart ★

NOT LONG AGO, the Secretary of the United States Treasury studied a figure-covered sheet of paper.

The figures revealed a steady, powerful upswing in the sale of U. S. Savings Bonds, and an equally steady decrease in Bond redemptions.

But to the Secretary, they revealed a good deal more than that, and Mr. Snyder spoke his mind:

"After the Victory Loan, sales of U. S. Savings Bonds went down—redemptions went up. And that was only natural and human.

"It was natural and human—but it was also dangerous. For suppose this trend had continued. Suppose that, in this period of reconversion, some 80 million Americans had decided not only to stop saving, but to spend the \$40 billion which they had *already* put aside in Series E, F & G Savings Bonds. The picture which *that* conjures up is not a pretty one!

"But the trend did NOT continue.

"Early last fall, the magazines of this country—nearly a thousand of them, acting together—started an advertising campaign on Bonds. This, added to the continuing support of other media and advertisers, gave the American people the facts . . . told them why it was important to buy and hold U. S. Savings Bonds.

"The figures on this sheet tell how the Ameri-

can people responded—and mighty good reading it makes.

"Once more, it has been clearly proved that when you give Americans the facts, you can then ask them for action—and *you'll get it!*"

What do the figures show?

On Mr. Snyder's sheet were some very interesting figures.

They showed that sales of Savings Bonds went from \$494 million in last September to \$519 million in October and kept climbing steadily until, in January of this year, they reached a new postwar high: In January, 1947, Americans put nearly a billion dollars in Savings Bonds. And that trend is continuing.

In the same way, redemptions have been going just as steadily downward. Here, too, the trend continues.

Moreover, there has been, since the first of the year, an increase not only in the volume of Bonds bought through Payroll Savings, but in the number of buyers.

How about you?

The figures show that millions of Americans have realized this fact: there is no safer, surer way on earth to get the things you want than by buying U. S. Savings Bonds regularly.

They are the safest investment in the world. Buy them regularly through the Payroll Plan, or ask your banker about the Bond-a-Month Plan.

Save the easy, automatic way—with U.S. Savings Bonds

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See the land, her Easter keeping,
Rises as her Maker rose,
Seeds, so long in darkness sleeping,
Burst at last from winter snows.
Earth with heaven above rejoices.

—*Charles Kingsley*

